

as for instance *Urtica* *Chinensis* (which has no *U* attached to it & that I take may be a guide). There was I believe a specimen of this of *Canarium* *Rivula* (110) which I have somehow mislaid. Have written that that plant is not in Hong Kong, he gathered it in "Davis Island Whampoa". Pray let me know whether Wright really found it wild in Hong Kong - or otherwise I must strike it out of the flora.

I have made a few corrections in the determinations of *Vitis*, *Persea* etc which I sent you last year but I have unfortunately left the memorandum at New where I do not go today and if I do not send this letter today it may be long I know not how long - I shall mark Wright's numbers carefully throughout the margin of my paper.

You ask "where is Agardh's paper published" I suppose by this time you have seen and marvelled at the substantial & so beautifully printed in a close small type. He has worked hard at it for years and observed a great deal but I do not think his book will contribute much to that cleanness of method which is essential to enable us to form an idea of the vegetable Kingdom wholesale and retail. You mentioned I believe somewhere

91 Victoria Street  
Westminster  
April 7 1859

My dear Gray

I believe I have several of your letters unanswered but on looking them over I do not find anything particularly ~~replies~~ requiring a reply - only so far as general thanks - for although so bad a correspondent myself I am always particularly glad of letters from you - and only hope that you are carrying into effect what you said you intended to do in one of your last years letters - finishing off your Amer. Explor. Exped. with a view to paying us a visit - when you must bring Mr Gray with you. No long to see you both again and on crossing the Atlantic is now quite out of the question. Do not however come this summer as we shall be away & purpose going abroad about the second week in June and shall scarcely be back before November. I got the *Prævia* Dalbergiae and *Siphon* off my hand but about 10 days ago when I sent them off to Morton. They took me up so much more

time than I expected for I had to work  
up in detail non. Brazilian as well as  
Brazilian species in order to settle the  
genera. Besides three days in each week  
I have had to work with Mr. Oliver  
(whom I have to assist me three days)  
either on the Cambridge Herbarium  
or on the species plants. I am now getting  
on with the determination of his  
Parapeto collection which I shall descri-  
be before I leave town.

Since I cut off the Brazilian Papilion  
I have reviewed the Hong Kong plants  
I am reviewing the whole flora and as  
I must reexamine so much and  
compare with E. Indian now that  
for Hooker's plants are mostly laid in  
I give generally short specific descriptions  
and general distribution which rather  
lengthens the time it takes as well  
as the page itself. I doubt if I shall  
finish it before I go but will send  
you as much as is ready - but pray  
tell me how to send the MSS - It is  
too much for post - the book post  
does not take MSS - Shall I send it  
through Treibner? but then it must  
not be perda as Linnean Journal  
is. I do. - The Hong Kong Flora is much

less Japanese than I expected. It consists  
chiefly of 1 widely spread Asiatic plants,  
many of them Indian - 2 North Indian  
that is Khairya Sikhim & Himalaya  
3 South Indian that is Ceylon Malacca  
the Moluccas and Philippines & those  
Eastern which we have only from  
the Moluccas or Philippines & Chinese  
proper which we have as yet  
either only from Hong Kong or only  
from the adjacent island and continent  
of P. China. We have however very  
little from China excepting from  
the immediate neighbourhood of  
Hong Kong or Macao and a few small  
Amoy collections where already the  
vegetation is different and shows  
more of Brunei's North China (Pekin)  
type plants. Some Japanese plants  
do certainly extend to Hong Kong but  
they seem to bear a less proportion  
to the flora than the Khairya  
one. However I shall work all this  
up more accurately when I have done  
the number of Phacelium species  
will be I believe near 1000. As far  
as I have finished 140 of Seemann's  
enumeration have become 100. With  
Wright's I have no memoranda, and  
some of his are evidently garden plants

to Europe. I believe however he  
is procuring some other employment  
and I doubt whether we shall hear  
much more from him - I have  
now on hand this Tarapoto collection  
which is considerable and a small  
Ecuadorian one which by his desire  
I wait to distribute till I receive  
the rest as the sets of many are  
only completed in what has still to  
come - the foolish war between  
Peru and Ecuador although it  
appears to have been hitherto bloodless  
interferes with the despatch of  
Gouan's collections.

~~Several~~ Gouan's Venezuela (Tovar)  
plants contain many very good things  
I am particularly anxious about  
tropical American plants (especially  
of course Leguminosae). The central  
American flora is remarkably varied  
I have seen a good deal from Hartweg  
Cortez - our surveying expeditions  
etc and am surprised at the number  
of remarkable plants in our collection  
and not in others according to the  
mountains ascended - many must  
be very local there

I hope to present a Synopsis of Dalbergiae

in the Ann. Journ. - at least of American  
ones. Of *Dalbergia* I have only  
20 Brazilian species out of 46 ~~total~~  
~~species~~ <sup>altogether</sup> - and I reject a few of the  
old ones into other genera but include  
*Stenocarpa* & *Sphinctolobium* - In  
Dalbergia I include *Wrightia*  
*Miclobium* and *Americanum*. I  
also reunite the section of *Pterocarpus*  
except *Ateleia* which is a *Copaifera*  
(I saw a specimen in Wright's Cuba  
plants of one species and have seen  
specimens of ~~others~~ another in other  
Cuba collections) - *Millettia* must  
be decidedly excluded from Dalbergiae  
the pod always opens when quite  
ripe in two valves - I have not  
again worked it up ~~found~~ am afraid  
it comes very near *Glicyidea* and  
other Robinoid genera - and I believe  
my former genera *Mundulea* and  
*Otorema* can scarcely stand - at least  
character from the callotia or  
from the fold at the base of the  
vegetium break down generally  
except as species - In all true  
Leguminosae the great difficulty is  
to match the flower and fruit  
In Acutlet they are very much mismatched  
and since his time many a species  
has been made up (by myself as well  
as by others) of the flowers of one with the

front of another, owing to loose  
 fruits having been sent by collectors  
~~also~~ with the wrong flowering  
 specimens. Collectors themselves are  
 often deceived by the intricate  
 manner in which the branches  
 of different trees or leaves are  
 intertwined - But in most cases  
 we get flowers without any fruits  
 there are 7 or 8 Central American shrubs  
 some of which I have never seen the pod  
 and I hope you will impress upon all  
~~collectors~~ your collectors in tropical countries  
 the necessity of gathering fruiting  
 specimens with the leaves attached.

With kindest regards to Mr's  
 Gony Ever yours sincerely

George Donnell

what you had seen in the paper about  
 the Government grant for an  
 Australian Flora. When it came  
 however to putting it in the estimate,  
~~the~~ Colonial Office found they had  
 so many extras that they had to cut  
 down, and topped this off in the first  
 instance. Since then letters have been  
 written to the Colonies themselves to  
 take it up. If they do in a satisfactory  
 manner that will be my chief  
 occupation for some years to come  
 but I shall finish up the Hong Kong  
 revision first.

You ask about your account  
 this I believe is follows..

1850	June Darwinian Journal Botany copy		
	2 perit vols (8/40)	—	12.0
July	Darwinian Journal vol 3, 2 complete and 5 Botany	—	2.0 0.0
	Spruce's Langbian etc collection 398 etc.	—	7.18.0
1854	Nov Darwinian Journal Supplement		
	7 copies (at 3/40 each)	—	1.0 1.0
			<u>£ 11.18.0</u>

Mitten's shops will be concluded in  
 another supplemental part which  
 will be changed rather left.  
 Mr Spruce appears to be now settled  
 in the Ecuador and talks of not returning